

REMARKS

Request for Reconsideration

Applicant has carefully considered the matters raised by the Examiner in the outstanding Office Action but remains of the opinion that patentable subject matter is present. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the Examiner's position based on the substitute Abstract, amendments to the claims and the following remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has indicated that Claim 1 and its dependent Claims 2-10 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the objection and rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in the Office Action.

Applicant has amended all claims to address the objections and rejections and put the claims in conformity with the U.S. practice. It is therefore submitted that the claims are now allowable.

Claims Status

Claims 1, 2, and 4-10 are pending.

Claim Objections

Claims 2-10 had been objected to because the preamble used the term "file cabinets". The preamble of all of the dependent claims have been amended herein to delete the objected-to phrase and to place the preamble into more conventional U.S. format.

The claims had also been objected to for using the phrase "the said". The claims have been reviewed and such phrases have been amended. Finally, in Claim 1, the term "a end ramp" had been objected to. The Examiner suggested amending this phrase to "an end ramp". Such a suggestion is appreciated and has been adopted herein.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-10 had been rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

First, the Examiner noted that the preamble of the claims referred to "a blocking system" but the body of the claims positively recited a "file cabinet". The Examiner suggested that the file cabinet be functionally recited in the claims if Applicant wishes to direct his claims to the blocking system or that the filing cabinet be positively recited in the body of the claim, if Applicant wanted to claim the combination of a blocking system and a filing cabinet. All of the claims have been amended herein to claim the blocking system and to refer to the file cabinet in functional terms.

Claim 1 had further been rejected as being indefinite with respect to the movement of the two emerging bolts and the Examiner had suggested that the claim recite that the two emerging bolts move linearly within the grooved rail. Such a suggestion is appreciated and has been adopted herein.

Claim 1 had also been rejected because the last clause refers to other drawers yet there is no antecedent basis for a plurality of drawers. Claim 1 has been amended herein to recite, in the preamble, that the filing cabinet

has multiple drawers. Furthermore, it is deemed that the recitation of the drawers in the last paragraph of Claim 1 is only functional in nature.

Finally, with respect to Claim 1, the Examiner noted that if there are multiple drawers there should be multiple pull shaft support plates and mobile blocking elements. Claim 1 has been amended herein to recite that for each of the multiple drawers, there is a pull shaft, a support platen, and a mobile blocking element.

Claim 2 had been rejected as being indefinite for the phrase "in same dimensions" and the Examiner has suggested using the phrase "each has a same dimension". Such a suggestion is appreciated and has been adopted herein.

Claim 3 had been objected to as being indefinite because it was unclear how the end ramp referred to in Claim 3 was different than the end ramp referred to in Claim 1. The end ramp referred to in Claim 3 is the end ramp in Claim 1, thus Claim 3 has been canceled.

Claim 4 had been rejected as being indefinite because Claim 4 referred to each support platen while Claim 1 referred to only one support platen. As noted above, Claim 1 has been amended to recite that each drawer of the multiple drawers has a support platen. Thus, it is submitted that Claim 4 is now definite.

Finally, Claims 9 and 10 had been rejected as being indefinite because it was unclear which bolt faces the pull shaft and is the drawer in the open, intermediate or closed position? Claims 9 and 10 have been amended herein to recite that one of the bolts faces the pull shaft when the drawers closed.

Respectfully, the claims have been amended to be more definite and the claims are now in condition for allowance.

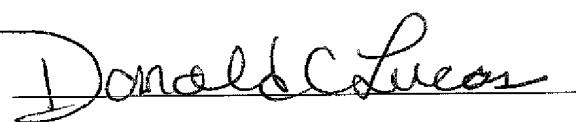
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested.

Should any fees be necessary in order to maintain this Application in pending condition, appropriate requests are hereby made and authorization is given to debit Account # 02-2275.

Respectfully submitted,
LUCAS AND MERCANTI, LLP

By:



Donald C. Lucas, Reg. #31,275
Attorney for Applicant(s)
475 Park Avenue South, 15th Floor
New York, New York
Tel. # 212-661-8000

DCL/YDC/mr